

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
SITUATION REPORT
PHONE: 936-523-3903
FAX: 936-523-3910**

WINTER WEATHER EVENT

OPERATIONAL PERIOD: JANUARY 7, 2009; 0800 - 1400

SITUATION UPDATE:

...WINTER STORM WARNING REMAINS IN EFFECT UNTIL SUNDAY MORNING...

...FREEZE WARNING ISSUED FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY UNTIL SUNDAY MORNING...

National Weather Service has issued a Hard Freeze Watch and Hazardous Weather Outlook for this arctic system.

Freezing temperatures and impressive winds are associated with this system. Wind chills will dive into the teens by Thursday afternoon and possibly the single digits Thursday night. Locations along and north of I-10 will fall below freezing late Thursday and are likely to remain below freezing until Saturday afternoon. Any warming above freezing will last only for a few hours. Latest forecast guidance is calling for a hard freeze on three consecutive mornings, with Saturday and Sunday mornings looking the coldest. Wind gusts of up to 40 mph could result in downed power lines and other impacts.

PRECAUTIONARY/PREPAREDNESS ACTIONS

Carbon Monoxide Hazards During Winter:

Carbon Monoxide (CO) poisonings usually occur during the winter months when people use heating sources that may produce hazardous CO levels. You can prevent CO poisoning by preparing your home heating sources for winter and by recognizing the symptoms of CO poisoning.

CO is difficult to detect. CO is a colorless, odorless gas produced by burning any fuel. According to the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) about 20,000 Americans are treated in emergency rooms

each year because of CO exposure; exposure to high levels of CO can cause death.

Common symptoms of CO poisoning include headache, dizziness, chest pain, nausea and vomiting.

PETS

The Montgomery County Office of Emergency Management is utilizing the Animal Plan. In the event the county animal shelter becomes overwhelmed the Animal Issue Committee will activate its plan to elevate any problems that arise. The necessary steps have been taken to ensure that the proper precautions are in place to protect the animals within the county.

Cold weather can be hard on pets, just like it can be hard on people. Sometimes owners forget that their pets are just as accustomed to the warm shelter of the indoors as they are. Some owners will leave their animals outside for extended periods of time, thinking that all animals are adapted to live outdoors. This can put their pets in danger of serious illness. There are things you can do to keep your animal warm and safe.

- . Provide proper shelter for your pet whether they live indoors or outdoors.
- . Make sure to provide fresh food and clean water for your pet every day.
- . Keep your cats indoors during the winter.

SHELTER/WARMING CENTERS

The Salvation Army is open to receive persons that need shelter during this severe cold weather event. The Salvation Army is located at 304 E. Davis in Conroe. Their phone number is 936-760-2440. They open at 4:30 PM. The public can go to any County Libraries during the day to get warm. We are in contact with the Red Cross and have several shelters on stand by. If and when the Red Cross opens additional shelters, we will notify K-Star radio (99.7 FM) and they will release that information through radio broadcasts. We will also add the information on our website at mctxoem.org and on WebEOC.

WEATHER/ROAD CONDITIONS/ CLOSURES WEBSITES

TranStar real-time traffic and information on active incidents and road closures

<http://www.houstontranstar.org> and click under "Traffic Conditions".

TEXAS ROAD CONDITIONS (Statewide)

TXDOT website http://www.dot.state.tx.us/travel/road_conditions.htm

SCHOOL CLOSURES

www.safeschoolalerts.com

NWS HOUSTON/GALVESTON

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/hgx>

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER IS
CURRENTLY MONITORING THE SITUATION AND WILL PROVIDE UPDATES
VIA THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT WEBSITE
AT WWW.MCTXOEM.ORG; WEBEOC; AND WITH KSTAR RADIO FM 99.7.**